

CLAIMS:

1. A method for transacting exchanges of agricultural products, the method comprising:

providing consideration to an agricultural producer;

5 defining a quantity of an agricultural product, a maximum price and a target date;
receiving an election from the agricultural producer to defer pricing of the quantity beyond the target date in the event the market price is less than the maximum price on the target date; and

receiving notification from the agricultural producer of pricing of the quantity.

10 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising paying to the agricultural producer a sum based upon the maximum price in the event the market price exceeds the maximum price on the target date.

15 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
defining a final delivery date; and
receiving delivery of the quantity no later than the final delivery date.

20 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
defining a final pricing date; and
receiving notification from the agricultural producer of pricing of the quantity no later than the final pricing date.

25 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising defining a final delivery date, wherein the final pricing date and the final delivery date are the same date.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving delivery of the quantity prior to receiving notification from the agricultural producer of pricing of the quantity.

30 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising receiving a fee for storage of the quantity.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving notification from the agricultural producer of pricing of the quantity on a pricing date, the pricing date occurring after the target date; and

5 paying to the agricultural producer a sum based upon the market price on the pricing date.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the market price exceeds the maximum price.

10 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the quantity of agricultural product is a first quantity of a first agricultural product, and wherein providing consideration comprises:

receiving delivery of a second quantity of a second agricultural product;

paying a sum to the agricultural producer based upon a market price of the second quantity plus a premium.

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11. The method of claim 1, wherein providing consideration comprises:

paying a sum to the agricultural producer based upon a market price of the quantity plus a premium.

20 12. The method of claim 1, wherein providing consideration comprises paying a cash sum to the agricultural producer.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein providing consideration comprises an adjustment to basis.

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14. A method for transacting exchanges of agricultural products, the method comprising:

receiving consideration from a buyer;

defining a quantity of an agricultural product, a maximum price and a target date;

30 electing to defer pricing of the quantity beyond the target date in the event the market price is less than the maximum price on the target date; and

notifying the buyer of pricing of the quantity.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising receiving a sum from the buyer based upon the maximum price in the event the market price exceeds the maximum price on the target date.

16. The method of claim 14, further comprising:
defining a final delivery date; and
delivering the quantity no later than the final delivery date.

17. The method of claim 14, further comprising:
defining a final pricing date; and
notifying the buyer of pricing of the quantity no later than the final pricing date.

18. The method of claim 14, wherein delivering the quantity comprises delivering the quantity before notifying the buyer of pricing of the quantity.

19. A method comprising:
paying a first sum for a first quantity of a first agricultural product delivered on a first date, wherein the first sum is based on a first market price for a first delivery date plus a premium; and

paying a second sum for a second quantity of a second agricultural product, wherein the second sum is based on:
the lesser of a second market price for a second date and a maximum price in the event the second quantity is priced on the second date, or
a third market price for a third date in the event the second quantity is priced on the third date, the third date following the second date; and
receiving delivery of the second quantity at no later than a final delivery date.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the third date is no later than a final pricing date.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein the second quantity is priced on the second date in the event the maximum price exceeds the second market price on the second date.

5 22. The method of claim 21, wherein pricing the second quantity on the second date comprises basing the second sum on the maximum price.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein delivery of the second quantity is received before the third date.

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24. The method of claim 19, wherein the first date and the second date are the same date.

25. A method comprising:

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defining a quantity of an agricultural product, a maximum price and a target date; paying to the agricultural producer a sum based upon the maximum price in the event the market price exceeds the maximum price on the target date; and

granting to the agricultural producer the choice to defer pricing of the quantity beyond the target date in the event the market price is less than the maximum price on the target date.

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27. The method of claim 25, further comprising:
defining a final delivery date; and
receiving delivery of the quantity no later than the final delivery date.

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27. The method of claim 25, further comprising:
defining a final pricing date; and
receiving notification from the agricultural producer of pricing of the quantity no later than the final pricing date.

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28. The method of claim 25, further comprising providing consideration to the agricultural producer.

29. The method of claim 25, further comprising:

- 5 receiving notification from the agricultural producer of pricing of the quantity on a pricing date, the pricing date occurring after the target date; and
- paying to the agricultural producer a sum based upon the market price on the pricing date.